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DIRECTORATE OF
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Central Intelligence Bulletin

DIA review(s)
completed.

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Israel-Egypt: The Israelis have struck the northernmost sites of the SAM complex along the Suez Canal. (Page 3)

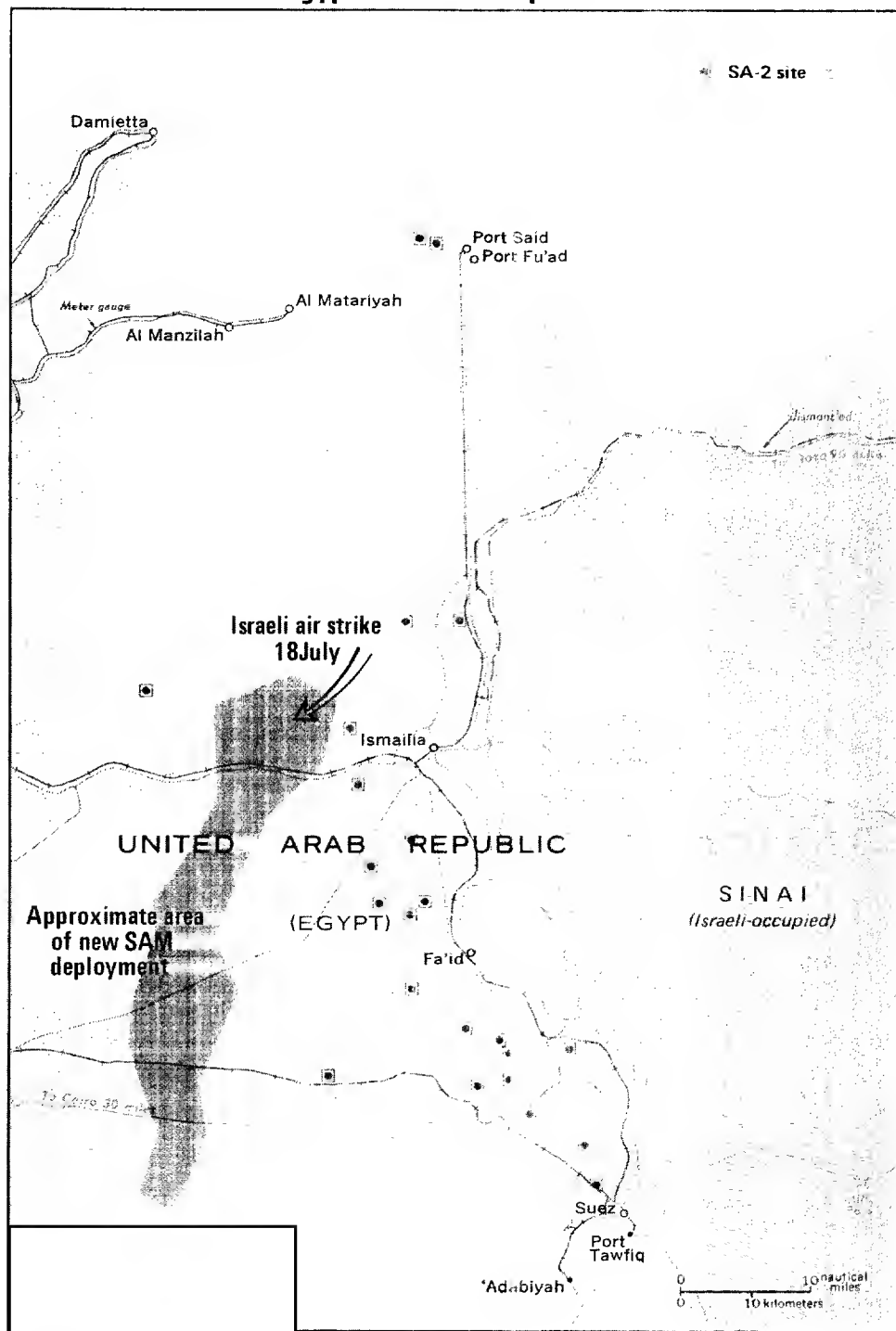
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Ghana-UK: Relations may soon become severely strained because of Accra's debt problems. (Page 5)

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Israel Bombs Soviet-Egyptian SAM complex



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Israel-Egypt: The major Israeli air strike on 18 July was designed to destroy the seven northernmost sites of the newly emplaced Soviet-Egyptian SAM complex.

The results of the strike, some 15 to 30 miles west of the Great Bitter Lake, are not yet known.

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[redacted] 18 Phantoms were involved and were aided by support aircraft and helicopters. One Phantom was knocked down by an SA-2 missile while another was hit by an SA-3 but managed to return to its Sinai base. Some 30-40 missiles were fired at the Israeli planes, including at least five SA-3 missiles. Many were launched from the southern part of the defense complex, which was not under attack.

[redacted] probably only three of the seven SAM sites were operational at the time of the strike; the other four are assumed by the Israelis to have been "dummies" because no missiles were fired from them. [redacted] dummy and live sites are interchangeable within 24 to 48 hours.

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The Israeli chief of staff, General Bar-Lev, indicated in a recent interview that Israel intended to concentrate on bombing the Soviet-supplied air defense system along the Egyptian side of the canal even though it knew "perfectly well" that destroyed equipment could be replaced in a short time. Bar-Lev added, however, that "should it become necessary," Israel would strike "further"--apparently a reference to a possible resumption of deep penetration raids. [redacted]

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Approved For Release 2003/10/01 : CIA-RDP79T00975A016700080002-7

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Ghana-UK: Accra's relations with London may soon become severely strained.

The most important issue is the UK's position on Ghana's crushing debts. Accra blames the British for its inability to get better terms at a meeting with its Western creditors last week in London. Prime Minister Busia's regime has publicly staked its prestige on a successful resolution of the debt problem, which is largely attributable to loans negotiated during the Nkrumah years. Busia considers many of the resulting debts to have been fraudulently incurred, and there is considerable pressure within the government for selective repudiation or for other more drastic measures.

Other irritants, combined with this dissatisfaction over the debt negotiations, have raised anti-British feeling to a peak among members of the increasingly nationalistic Busia government.

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